



For ages
3-5

The Bookworm



From your
local library
and Idaho's Read
to Me program

October 2012

Playing with Words

To understand a spoken language, a child must be able to hear the different sounds and parts of the words that make up the language. By playing with words, children develop **phonological awareness**. Most children who have phonological awareness have an easier time learning to read.

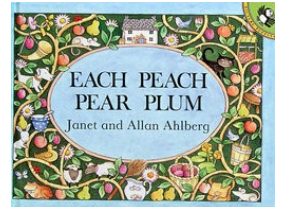
Here's what you can do at home:

- Help your pre-reader become aware of the smaller sounds that make up words by learning nursery rhymes and making up your own silly, nonsense rhymes together.
- For young preschoolers, play with animal sounds.
- Ask whether two words rhyme: "Do 'cat' and 'hat' sound alike?" "Do 'cat' and 'dog' rhyme?"
- Sing songs with your child every day. Songs naturally break words into syllables and are a fun way to learn about word sounds.
- Put two words together to make a new word: "What word would we have if we put 'cow' and 'boy' together?"
- Begin pointing out beginning sounds of words. "What sound do you hear at the beginning of 'mom'? That's right, m-m-m."
- Leave out the last rhyming word. "Twinkle, twinkle, little star, How I wonder what you _____, (are)." Do this with other nursery rhymes, poems and songs that your child knows by heart.
- Say rhymes and sing songs in the language that is most comfortable for you.

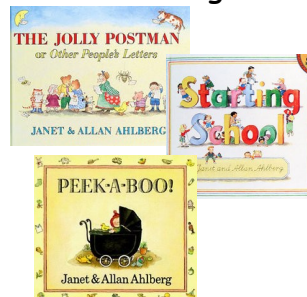
Book of the Month

Each Peach, Pear, Plum, by Janet Ahlberg

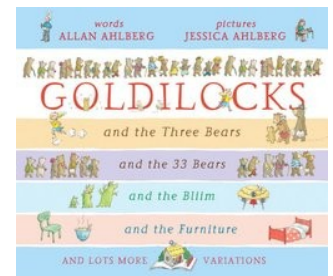
Rhyming text and detailed illustrations invite the reader to play "I Spy" with a variety of Mother Goose and other folklore characters. This book is a classic favorite!



More Ahlberg books:



Coming October 2012:



Some good books to help your child play with words...

Rhyming books

Dr. Seuss books

Mother Goose Nursery Rhyme books

Books that illustrate a familiar song

Books with a rhythm or beat

Some favorites...

Chicken Cheeks, Michael Ian Black

Miss Mary Mack, Mary Ann Hoberman

Seals on the Bus, Lenny Hort

Rhyming Dust Bunnies, Jan Thomas

Down by the Station, Will Hillenbrand

Green Eggs and Ham, Dr. Seuss

More fun with *Each Peach, Pear, Plum*

Rhyme time... Play "I Spy" with pictures on the pages of the book. "I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with 'bear' (pear)." Let your child make up rhymes and have you guess, too.

Nursery Rhymes... Nursery rhymes are a simple and easy way to help your child build rhyming skills. Research suggests that children who know lots of nursery rhymes before they begin school tend to find more success with learning to read. You can find books of nursery rhymes at your local library.

Nursery Rhymes in *Each Peach, Pear, Plum*

'Bye Baby Bunting

Daddy's gone a'hunting
Mommy's gone a'milking
Sister's gone a'silking
Brother's gone to buy a skin
To wrap the baby bunting in.

Jack and Jill

Jack and Jill went up the hill
To fetch a pail of water.
Jack fell down and broke his crown,
And Jill came tumbling after.

Old Mother Hubbard

Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard
To fetch her poor dog a bone.
But when she got there the cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog had none.

Little Bo-Peep

Little Bo-Peep has lost her sheep
And doesn't know where to find them.
Leave them alone, and they will come home,
Dragging their little tails behind them.

Sing Silly Songs

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

Now make up new words to the song...

Row, row, row your car...

Or make up silly words...

Tow, tow, tow my goat...

Nonsense words...

Bow, bow, bow my doat...

Sing about where you are going or what you are doing...

Wash, wash, wash my hands...

Walk, walk, walk to school...



What your library can do for you...

Don't have access to a computer? Most libraries do not require a library card in order to use the computers. Some even offer free computer classes.

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